

SEP 15 2006

Docket No. F-7231

Ser. No. 09/989,505

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 6-39 remain pending in this application. Claims 1 and 6-18 are allowed. Claims 19, 32, 33 and 35 are rejected. Claims 2-5 are previously cancelled. Claims 20-31, 34 and 36-39 are objected to.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 19, 32, 33 and 35 are rejected as obvious over the D'Andrade reference in view of the Collier reference and further in view of the Yamasaki reference under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The applicant herein respectfully traverses this rejection. For a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) to be sustained, the differences between the features of the combined references and the present invention must be obvious to one skilled in the art.

The invention according to claim 19 (hereinafter "the present invention") includes the features of a setting device, a storage device and a controller. Because of them, a steering characteristic of a movable body is determined depending on a value set by a user from among a plurality of "a plurality of characteristic setting values." Claim 19 goes on to recite:

a storage device for storing performance characteristic data
defining a plurality of steering characteristics respectively

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corresponding to ones of said plurality of characteristic setting values[.]

The Examiner indicates that an alignment trim adjuster 80 of Yamasaki corresponds to the setting device of the present invention. However, the alignment trim adjuster 80 is completely different from the setting device according to the claim limitations. The alignment trim adjuster 80 is rotated by a tool inserted within socket 67 to set the position of a pin 83. The pin 83 is operative to adjust the normal straight ahead travel of skateboard 10 (col. 6 lines 16-23). When a traverse arm 74 moves in the direction 122 by a motor, wheels 12, 13 incline and a downwardly extending post 75 also moves to a direction according to the movement of the traverse arm, and thereby a spring 102 extends. By the resilience of the extended spring 102, the position of board 11 is adjusted so that a skateboard 10 travels in the straight ahead direction.

A user inserts the tool within the socket 67. Therefore, it is set to the alignment trim adjuster by the user that the normal position of board 11 to keep the straight ahead travel of the skateboard 10.

Even if the normal position set by the user corresponds to the characteristic setting value, Yamasaki discloses only about adjusting a position of the board by the resilience of spring. Yamasaki fails to disclose and teach about adjusting the position of the board according to the characteristic data depending on the normal position.

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REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicant respectfully requests a one month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. Please charge the fee of \$120.00 for the extension of time to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

If there is any discrepancy between the fee(s) due and the fee payment authorized in the Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 or the Form PTO-2038 is missing or fee payment via the Form PTO-2038 cannot be processed, the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) or fee(s) deficiency or credit any excess payment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

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In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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